

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

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SUBJECT: LIBERIA AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE DENNIS' REMARKS FOR CREDEN-
TIALS CEREMONY

REF: MONROVIA 4877

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF REMARKS AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE DENNIS WILL MAKE
AT PRESENTATION OF HIS LETTERS OF CREDENCE:

BEGIN TEXT. MR. PRESIDENT:

IT IS A GREAT HONOUR FOR ME TO BE RECEIVED IN AUDIENCE TODAY BY
YOUR EXCELLENCY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PRESENTING TO YOU THE LETTERS BY
WHICH YOUR FRIEND, DR. WILLIAM R. TOLBERT, JR., PRESIDENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, ACCREDITS ME NEAR YOUR GOODSELF IN THE CAPACITY
OF AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF
LIBERIA.

PRESIDENT TOLBERT WOULD HAVE ME CONVEY TO YOU HIS WARMEST
FELICITATIONS AND PEERSONAL BEST WISHES FOR YOUR WELLBEING, COUPLED
WITH HIS SINCERE DESIRE THAT YOU WILL USE YOUR HIGH OFFICES TO
EXTEND TO THE GREAT PEOPLES OF THE UNITED STATES SENTIMENTS OF
GOODWILL AND FRATERNITY FROM THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF LIBERIA.
THE PRESIDENT LOOKS FORWARD TO RENEWING HIS PERSONAL
ACQUIANTANCE WITH YOU LATER ON DURING THIS BI-CENTENNIAL
YEAR.

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PERMIT ME, MR. PRESIDENT, TO EXTEND TO YOU AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS ON THE AUSPICIOUS AND FESTIVE OCCASION OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF YOUR GREAT COUNTRY.

I CONSIDER MYSELF FORTUNATE TO BE ENTRUSTED WITH THE RESPONSIBLE MISSION OF FURTHERING THE FRIENDLY RELATIONS ALREADY HAPPILY SUBSISTING BETWEEN LIBERIA AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ESPECIALLY SO THAT I AM PRIVILEGED TO BE ASSIGNED HERE AT THIS POINT OF HISTORY WHEN YOU ARE DESIGNING A BLUE PRINT OF YOUR VISION, COMMITMENT AND FULLFILMENT FOR THE THIRD CENTURY OF YOUR NATIONAL EXISTENCE. I WISH YOU ABUNDANT SUCCESS*

ALTHOUGH GEOGRAPHICALLY WE ARE FAR APART, THE SPECIAL TIES WHICH BIND OUR TWO COUNTRIES HAVE CAUSED US TO ALWAYS FOLLOW WITH DEEP INTEREST THE POLICIES AND PROGRAMS OF THE UNITED STATES. WE SHARE WITH YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, COMMON IDEALS AND PURSUITS OF FREEDOM AND EQUILITY, OF LIBERTY AND JUSTICE, AND OF PEACE AND HUMAN DIGNITY. LIBERIAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS HAVE CONTINUED TO GROW OVER THE YEARS.

WE ARE ECOURAGED BY YOUR VERY TIMELY DECISION TO SEND DR. KISSINGER TO AFRICA, AND ENTERTAIN THE PLEASING HOPE THAT THESE MANIFESTATIONS WILL USHER IN A NEW ERA OF AMERICAN POLICY AND COMMITMENT FOR THE AFRICAN CONTINENT AS A WHOLE, AND FOR LIBERIA IN PARTICULAR, AS WE SEE THE FAR-REACHING PRONOUNCEMENTS OF DR. KISSINGER BEING TRANSLATED INTO POSITIVE ACTIONS.

THE ENDURING TRADITIONAL FRIENDSHIP AND UNDERSTANDING WHICH GOVERN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND LIBERIA, CALL FOR A FIRMER COOPERATION IN THE ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND CULTURAL FIELDS. AND WITH YOUR INDULGENCE AND SUPPORT, MR. PRESIDENT, I INTEND TO WORK FOR THE INTENSIFICATION OF THAT COOPERATION AT ALL LEVELS (BOTH IN GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESS CIRCLES) TO THE MUTUAL BENEFIT OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND TWO PEOPLES.

IN HIS RELENTLESS ENDEAVOUR TO RAISE THE LIBERIAN
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PEOPLE FROM MATS TO MATRESSES, PRESIDENT TOLBERT CONTINUES TO CALL FOR SUSTAINED AND PROGRESSIVE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR "HIGHER HEIGHTS" BASED ON SELF-RELIANCE AND SELF-HELP IN THE SPIRIT OF RALLY TIME, AND HE HAS ACCORDINGLY DECLARED A STATE OF WAR AGAINST THE COMMON ENEMIES TO PROGRESS - IGNORANCE, DISEASE AND POVERTY. IT IS, THEREFORE, IN THIS CONTEXT THAT WE WOULD WELCOME THE CONTINUED SUPPORT, PARTICIPATION AND ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED STATES WITH ITS

SOPHISTICATED TECHNOLOGY AND EXPERTISE, ITS CAPITAL AND LEADERSHIP, IN A COOPERATIVE PARTNERSHIP, FOR SPEEDY AND SUSTAINED INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT.

MR. PRESIDENT, I RECALL WITH GRATIFICATION MY ASSIGNMENT FOURTEEN (14) YEARS AGO IN THIS BEAUTIFUL AND HISTORIC CITY OF WASHINGTON, D.C., AND THE WARM MANIFESTATIONS OF FRIENDLY FEELINGS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TOWARDS LIBERIA. WASHINGTON HAS CERTAINLY TAKEN ON A NEW LOOK SINCE LAST I WAS HERE. WHERE I TO ATTEMPT TO EMPHASIZE THAT FRIENDSHIP AND UNDERSTANDING, WORDS WOULD FAIL ME IN DOING JUSTICE TO THE REALITIES OF OUR RELATIONSHIP. NEVERTHELESS, WE CANNOT REST UPON PAST LAURELS - TOGETHER, I HOPE, WE CAN BUILD UPON PAST AND GIVE MEANING AND SUBSTANCE TO OUR LONG AND ENDURING SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP. AS FOR ME MR. PRESIDENT, I SHALL DO ALL WITHIN MY POWER TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN THE CORDIALITY AND WARMTH OF OUR RELATIONS.

AND IT IS MY HOPE THAT IN THE EXECUTION OF MY DUTIES HERE, I MIGHT GAIN AND REMAIN WORTHY OF YOUR EXCELLENCY'S COFIDENCE.

LONG LIVE THE SPIRIT OF '76* END TEXT.
CARTER

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